

BY THE FARMERS OF EXCISE

For the County of

YORK.



Whereas the Duty arising by Excise, is found so considerable a Branch of His Majesties Revenue, as not only to induce all Persons concerned therein, with due Caution to regard the advantage thereby accruing to the Publick-weal; but also studiously to endeavour the ease and encouragement of every Brewer or Retailer of any the Commodities therein concerned. Experience affirms it very essential thereto, That a good and right understanding be had and maintained between the Kings Officer doing his duty with all fairness and moderation, and the People yielding obedience to the Lawes, without prejudicating each others actions: His Majesty by his Grant having established the Farm of Excise in the County of York for Three years, commencing the Twentieth fourth of June 1671. in the hands of us, recommended at the same time to our care, the manage of that Affair with all imaginable indulgence, and ease to his Subjects: For all which Considerations as aforesaid, We the Farmers having duly wayed the hardship and Inconveniencies (as we are credibly informed) have attended great numbers of Retailers of Beer and Ale in the said County of York, by the severity of the late Farmers Officers; who to run the People up into great and high Compositions, beyond the true Merit of the Duty, are said to have (to the easing of a few, and the oppressing of many) taken more then reasonable Advantages, and by Threatnings, and laying on of great fines and Penalties for Pretended Crimes, enforced many into Bonds, which being never able to pay, have been imprisoned, and thereby have created great animosities against the said Duty. For prevention of which great Inconveniencies for the future, and that his Majesties Duty may be duly and easily raised with due satisfaction to all, We the said Farmers hereby publicly advertise and make known, to the encouragement of all Persons whatsoever, that are minded to Brew for Sale, little or much, That we intend to decline compounding with any, but leave all Persons at their own liberty to pay when they Brew, the Common Brewer to enter and pay once a Week, and all other Persons once a Moneth, at the next Office, and leave off when they please, upon notice given upon the Moneth day; so that if their Trade be small, their payment will be soe likewise, or the Duty found hard, they may be eased at pleasure, whereby we hope all persons will meet such satisfaction as no cause of Complaint may ensue, especially since the Officers, to be imployed in this Affair, have it strictly given in charge to demean themselves with all affability and respect to the persons with whom herein they have to do. And as they are to return due Entries on the Kings behalf, so are they to take great care not to overcharge any Person with more then in truth there is, that clamor in that case also may be avoided. In any of which Cases, if the Officers shall be faulty, upon application thereon made to us, or any of us the meanest Persons shall find redress amply to their satisfaction, whereby all Persons inclinable to Brew, may do it without fear or prejudice in the least. Now forasmuch as we on our parts, do firmly resolve, in all things, to carry on this affair with such equal tenderness on the King and Peoples behalf, That not any the least Inconvenience shall appear, but redress on either hand, shall be studiously and faithfully endeavoured; so we do hereby give notice, That we expect all faithfull and just dealing from the Persons concerned, and that a respect and kindness be shewed to the Officers in the due execution of their Office, wherein, if any wittingly and intentionally do fail, such redress shall be given as shall be agreeable to equity and Justice, and the Lawes of Excise in that Case provided.

And for the further encouragement of the Country for the Sale of Corn: And also of all that Brew for Faires, Wakes, Harvest-worke, Weddings, Drinkings, or any other occasions whatsoever: Shall have no further trouble from us then to pay the Duty of Excise at the next Office, upon the next Office day. And if any difference shall arise about the quantity or quality between them and the Gager: there shall no advantage be taken for the same. Or for want of Forme in making their Enteries Paying their just Duty of Excise, Avouched by the Oath of the Gager.

In the SAVOY Printed by Tho. Newcomb. 1671.